

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-8.

Please amend claims 13-24 as shown.

Please add new claim 25.

1. – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) A method of determining the temperature of an internal tissue or organ of a mammal, comprising the steps of:

surgical exposure of ~~removal of a portion of the mammal skin~~
~~sufficient to expose~~ the internal tissue or organ, the temperature of which is to be determined, ~~and~~

~~replacement thereof~~ covering the exposure with an infrared-invisible polymer ~~of equal size of said removed skin~~ and

measuring the temperature of the internal tissue or organ through the infrared invisible polymer using infrared thermography.

E 14. (Previously amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the method is used to measure the temperature before and after administration of a test agent to said mammal, and wherein a difference in temperature, that is observed following administration of said test agent, indicates that said test agent had a thermodynamic effect on the tissue or organ.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein one or more dosages of said agent are separately administered and the temperature of the tissue or organ before and after administration of ~~for each dose in~~ is determined.

16. (Previously added) The method of claim 14, wherein temperature is measured at one or more time points after administration

17. (Previously added) The method of claim 13 wherein said mammal is a rodent.

18. (Previously added) The method of claim 17 wherein said rodent is a mouse or rat.

19. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring ~~a change in the relative~~ temperature change of internal tissues or organs of a mammal comprising the steps of:

~~removing the mammal skin overlaying~~ exposure of the internal tissue or organ;

~~replacing the removed skin~~ covering of the exposure with an infrared-invisible polymer ~~of equal size of said removed skin~~; and

monitoring the ~~relative~~ temperature changes of the the tissue or organ through the infrared invisible polymer using infrared thermography.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the method is used to monitor the ~~relative~~ temperature in the tissue or organ before and after administration of a test agent to said mammal.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein one or more dosages of the test agent are administered over time and the ~~relative~~ temperature change before and after administration of the tissue or organ for each dose is monitored through the infrared invisible polymer using infrared thermography.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~relative~~ temperature changes are monitored at one or more time points after administration of the test agent.

23. (Previously added) The method of claim 19 wherein said mammal is a rodent.

24. (Previously added) The method of claim 23 wherein said rodent is a mouse or rat.

25. (New) A method of detecting changes in the heat emitted from an internal tissue or organ of a mammal, comprising the steps of:
 exposure of the internal tissue or organ,
 covering the exposure with an infrared-invisible polymer, and
 detecting changes in heat emitted from the internal tissue or organ through the infrared invisible polymer using infrared thermography.
